

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/510,954

Examiner

James A. Meyers

Applicant(s)

TAKEHARA ET AL.

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment dated 30 August 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14 and 16-22.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 6/28/2007, 10/5/2007
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

This action is in response to the amendment filed August 30, 2007. Claims 1-14 and 16-22 are pending and have been considered below.

#### ***Drawings***

1. The drawings were received on August 30, 2007. These drawings are accepted. All objections to the drawings are withdrawn.

#### ***Specification***

2. Based on the amendment dated August 30, 2007, all objections to the specification are withdrawn.

#### ***Claim Objections***

3. Based on the amendment dated August 30, 2007, all objections to the claims are withdrawn.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments, see pages 39-44, filed August 30, 2007, with respect to Claims 1, 2, 7, 13, 14, 16 and 19 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of Claims 1, 2, 7, 13, 14, 16 and 19 has been withdrawn.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 1-14 and 16-22 are allowed.

6. Prior art was found which disclosed image sensing a panoramic object by a remote image sensing device, sending a video signal of a part of the object to an image display portion in a different place, playing back and displaying the received video signal by the image display portion and sending obtained video signal to an image display portion (e.g. Hendricks et al., WO 99/12349). Prior art was also found which disclosed a camera equipped portable terminal image sensing its surroundings and sending the video signal to a image capturing device (e.g. Hanson et al., US 4,786,966).

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

8. The prior art of record does not teach or render obvious the limitations as recited in independent claims 1, 2, 7, 13, 14, 16 and 19, specific to obtaining variation information about the surrounding image by a variation detecting portion based on a previous surrounding video signal and a current received video signal. Dependent claims are allowed as they depend from an allowable independent claim.

9. Therefore, the examiner considers obtaining information about the surrounding image by a variation detecting portion of an image capturing device based on a previous surrounding video signal and a current received video signal as the non-obvious novelty of the invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James A. Meyers whose telephone number is (571) 270-1690. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs 8AM-5:30PM.

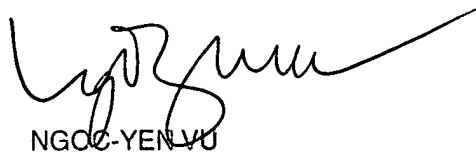
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, NgocYen Vu can be reached on (571) 272-7320. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

12/4/2007  
JM



NGOC-YEN VU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER